

ARTHUR J. LOGAN MAJOR GENERAL ADJUTANT GENERAL

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STATE OF HAWAII DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE OFFICE OF THE ADJUTANT GENERAL

3949 DIAMOND HEAD ROAD HONOLULU, HAWAII 96816-4495

TESTIMONY ON HOUSE BILL 601 H.D. 1, RELATING TO EXEMPTIONS FROM REGISTRATION FEES

PRESENTATION TO THE COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC SAFETY, INTERGOVERNMENTAL, AND MILITARY AFFAIRS

BY

MR. RONALD P. HAN DIRECTOR OF STATE OFFICE OF VETERANS SERVICES

March 14, 2019 1:30 p.m.

Good morning, Chair Nishihara, Vice Chair Wakai, and members of the Committee:

I am Ron Han, Director of the State Office of Veterans Services (OVS). I appreciate this opportunity to provide testimony **in support** of the concepts in House Bill 601 H.D.1.

This measure would repeal the requirement that disabled veterans be in receipt of disability retirement pay in order to be exempt from paying the annual vehicle registration fees. Veterans who qualify, if this measure is adopted, must be a resident of Hawaii, a 100% disabled veteran as determined by the United States Department of Veteran Affairs (VA) and received an "other than dishonorable discharge".

Service connected 100% disabled Veterans served valiantly in uniform in support and in defense of our country. The freedoms we enjoy today have been paved by their dedicated and honored service. This is a small token of our appreciation for their heralded duty. There are currently 3790 VA rated 100% disabled Veterans that reflect Hawaii as their home or residence.

We defer to the agency with direct responsibility for implementation.

The OVS supports the intent expressed in this measure as long as its implementation does not impact or replace the priorities set forth in the Executive Budget.

Thank you for this opportunity to provide testimony on behalf of Hawaii's Veterans and their families.

Ron Han: ronald.han@va.gov Phone: (808) 433-0422

<u>HB-601-HD-1</u> Submitted on: 3/11/2019 3:30:17 PM

Testimony for PSM on 3/14/2019 1:30:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing	
Mike Golojuch	Individual	Support	No	l

Comments:

I support HB601. Veterans need ever benefit that they qualify to receive. Please pass HB601.

Mike Golojuch, LT Col, USAF(Ret)

HB-601-HD-1

Submitted on: 3/12/2019 4:12:32 PM

Testimony for PSM on 3/14/2019 1:30:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
David Fukuzawa	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Dear Honorable Members of Legislature.

As a 100% disabled veteran who does not receive a retirement from the military, but do get disability from the VA, I am in total support of this bill. I have inquired in the past of the assistance from the State and was told I did not qualify for the assistance due to I was not receiving a retirement from the US Military. To me that seemed ludicrous as I am receiving 100% disability from the VA and cannot work. Please send this bill through to allow other veterans who are in the same condition as I am to be utilizing this benefit.

Sincerely,

David J Fukuzawa

US Navy Disabled Veteran - AT2 (AW)





TESTIMONY BY:

JADE T. BUTAY DIRECTOR

Deputy Directors LYNN A.S. ARAKI-REGAN DEREK J. CHOW ROSS M. HIGASHI EDWIN H. SNIFFEN

STATE OF HAWAII DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

869 PUNCHBOWL STREET HONOLULU, HAWAII 96813-5097

March 14, 2019 1:30 P.M. State Capitol, Room 229

H.B. 601, H.D. 1 RELATING TO EXEMPTIONS FROM REGISTRATION FEES.

Senate Committee on Public Safety, Intergovernmental, and Military Affairs

The Department of Transportation (DOT) supports this bill.

The DOT generally does not support exemptions as reductions in revenue are detrimental to the health of the State Highway Fund. This bill seeks to expand the exemption from payment of vehicle registration fees for disabled veterans residing in Hawaii with a 100-percent disability rating, to include those who are pre-retired, which could decrease vehicle registration revenues by approximately \$118,000. The DOT recognizes that these exemptions will assist our disabled veterans, and thus, we support this measure.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony.

<u>HB-601-HD-1</u> Submitted on: 3/14/2019 1:12:09 PM

Testimony for PSM on 3/14/2019 1:30:00 PM



Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Kalawai'a Goo	Individual	Support	No

Comments: